

## CHECKLIST ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

<b>Project Name:</b>	Rock Pile Club LUL
<b>Proposed Implementation Date:</b>	Spring 2008
<b>Proponent:</b>	Rock Pile Club LLC.
<b>Location:</b>	Section 16 T16N R1W, Section 36 T17N R2W
<b>County:</b>	Cascade
<b>Trust:</b>	Common Schools

### I. TYPE AND PURPOSE OF ACTION

The Rock Pile Club LLC. Is proposing to use existing roads across State land in section 16 T16N R1W and section 36 T17N R2W for recreational trail riding and access for an annual enduro event. The recreational motorcycle group has an agreement for use on the adjacent private deeded land belonging to the Anderson Ranch. The LUL would allow access to a considerable portion of the private land.

### II. PROJECT DEVELOPMENT

#### 1. PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT, AGENCIES, GROUPS OR INDIVIDUALS CONTACTED:

*Provide a brief chronology of the scoping and ongoing involvement for this project.*

The state lessee and adjacent owner were contacted.

#### 2. OTHER GOVERNMENTAL AGENCIES WITH JURISDICTION, LIST OF PERMITS NEEDED:

None.

#### 3. ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED:

1. Not issuing the LUL
2. Issuing the LUL as proposed.

### III. IMPACTS ON THE PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT

- *RESOURCES potentially impacted are listed on the form, followed by common issues that would be considered.*
- *Explain POTENTIAL IMPACTS AND MITIGATIONS following each resource heading.*
- *Enter "NONE" If no impacts are identified or the resource is not present.*

#### 4. GEOLOGY AND SOIL QUALITY, STABILITY AND MOISTURE:

*Consider the presence of fragile, compactable or unstable soils. Identify unusual geologic features. Specify any special reclamation considerations. Identify any cumulative impacts to soils.*

None. Use will be confined to existing roads. Standard LUL stipulations would address maintenance.

#### 5. WATER QUALITY, QUANTITY AND DISTRIBUTION:

*Identify important surface or groundwater resources. Consider the potential for violation of ambient water quality standards, drinking water maximum contaminant levels, or degradation of water quality. Identify cumulative effects to water resources.*

None. Riding would be restricted to existing roads. No impacts to water quality or quantity are expected.

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**6. AIR QUALITY:**

*What pollutants or particulate would be produced? Identify air quality regulations or zones (e.g. Class I air shed) the project would influence. Identify cumulative effects to air quality.*

None. The small scope of the proposed use would limit impact.

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**7. VEGETATION COVER, QUANTITY AND QUALITY:**

*What changes would the action cause to vegetative communities? Consider rare plants or cover types that would be affected. Identify cumulative effects to vegetation.*

None. No rare plants or communities have been identified. Use will be restricted to existing roads. Standard LUL stipulations address weeds and revegetation.

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**8. TERRESTRIAL, AVIAN AND AQUATIC LIFE AND HABITATS:**

*Consider substantial habitat values and use of the area by wildlife, birds or fish. Identify cumulative effects to fish and wildlife.*

None. Deer and elk commonly use the general area. The small scope of the proposal would limit impact.

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**9. UNIQUE, ENDANGERED, FRAGILE OR LIMITED ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES:**

*Consider any federally listed threatened or endangered species or habitat identified in the project area. Determine effects to wetlands. Consider Sensitive Species or Species of special concern. Identify cumulative effects to these species and their habitat.*

None. Some use by bald eagles is present to the west of the project however no impacts are expected.

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**10. HISTORICAL AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES:**

*Identify and determine effects to historical, archaeological or paleontological resources.*

None. No sites have been identified. Use would be restricted to existing roads.

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**11. AESTHETICS:**

*Determine if the project is located on a prominent topographic feature, or may be visible from populated or scenic areas. What level of noise, light or visual change would be produced? Identify cumulative effects to aesthetics.*

None. The area is not on a prominent feature and is remote with limited access. The small scope of the proposal will limit impacts.

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**12. DEMANDS ON ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES OF LAND, WATER, AIR OR ENERGY:**

*Determine the amount of limited resources the project would require. Identify other activities nearby that the project would affect. Identify cumulative effects to environmental resources.*

None. The state tracts are leased for grazing. No impacts are expected.

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**13. OTHER ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTS PERTINENT TO THE AREA:**

*List other studies, plans or projects on this tract. Determine cumulative impacts likely to occur as a result of current private, state or federal actions in the analysis area, and from future proposed state actions in the analysis area that are under MEPA review (scoped) or permitting review by any state agency.*

None. Both tracts are currently leased for grazing. No impacts are expected.

#### IV. IMPACTS ON THE HUMAN POPULATION

- *RESOURCES* potentially impacted are listed on the form, followed by common issues that would be considered.
- Explain **POTENTIAL IMPACTS AND MITIGATIONS** following each resource heading.
- Enter "NONE" if no impacts are identified or the resource is not present.

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##### 14. HUMAN HEALTH AND SAFETY:

*Identify any health and safety risks posed by the project.*

None.

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##### 15. INDUSTRIAL, COMMERCIAL AND AGRICULTURE ACTIVITIES AND PRODUCTION:

*Identify how the project would add to or alter these activities.*

None.

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##### 16. QUANTITY AND DISTRIBUTION OF EMPLOYMENT:

*Estimate the number of jobs the project would create, move or eliminate. Identify cumulative effects to the employment market.*

None.

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##### 17. LOCAL AND STATE TAX BASE AND TAX REVENUES:

*Estimate tax revenue the project would create or eliminate. Identify cumulative effects to taxes and revenue.*

None.

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##### 18. DEMAND FOR GOVERNMENT SERVICES:

*Estimate increases in traffic and changes to traffic patterns. What changes would be needed to fire protection, police, schools, etc.? Identify cumulative effects of this and other projects on government services*

None.

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##### 19. LOCALLY ADOPTED ENVIRONMENTAL PLANS AND GOALS:

*List State, County, City, USFS, BLM, Tribal, and other zoning or management plans, and identify how they would affect this project.*

None.

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##### 20. ACCESS TO AND QUALITY OF RECREATIONAL AND WILDERNESS ACTIVITIES:

*Identify any wilderness or recreational areas nearby or access routes through this tract. Determine the effects of the project on recreational potential within the tract. Identify cumulative effects to recreational and wilderness activities.*

None. Currently section 36 is accessible. No impacts to access are expected. The LUL would allow more access to club members on adjacent private land.

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##### 21. DENSITY AND DISTRIBUTION OF POPULATION AND HOUSING:

*Estimate population changes and additional housing the project would require. Identify cumulative effects to population and housing.*

None.

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**22. SOCIAL STRUCTURES AND MORES:**

*Identify potential disruption of native or traditional lifestyles or communities.*

None.

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**23. CULTURAL UNIQUENESS AND DIVERSITY:**

*How would the action affect any unique quality of the area?*

None.

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**24. OTHER APPROPRIATE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC CIRCUMSTANCES:**

*Estimate the return to the trust. Include appropriate economic analysis. Identify potential future uses for the analysis area other than existing management. Identify cumulative economic and social effects likely to occur as a result of the proposed action.*

If issued the LUL would provide annual income of approximately \$400.00 to the trust. The LUL should not effect future uses or income potential.

<b>EA Checklist Prepared By:</b>	<b>Name:</b> Robert Vlahovich	<b>Date:</b> 2/14/08
	<b>Title:</b> Spec. Uses coord.	

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<b>V. FINDING</b>
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**25. ALTERNATIVE SELECTED:**

I have selected the alternative to issue the Land Use License as proposed.

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**26. SIGNIFICANCE OF POTENTIAL IMPACTS:**

All use would be upon existing roads/trails, with number of users and the timing of use regulated by the licensee, ass part of their ongoing recreational uses on the adjacent private land. No adverse direct, indirect or cumulative impacts are anticipated.

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**27. NEED FOR FURTHER ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS:**☐

EIS

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More Detailed EA

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No Further Analysis

<b>EA Checklist Approved By:</b>	<b>Name:</b> D.J. Bakken
	<b>Title:</b> Helena Unit Manager
<b>Signature:</b> /s/ Darrel J. Bakken	<b>Date:</b> 2/22/2008